

## A NEW FUEL.

Promises to Revolutionize Steam Generation on Sea and Land.

Mon. Paul d'Humy, a French naval engineer, at present resident in Liverpool, the inventor of the new system of manufacturing armor-plates, has, it is stated, successfully carried out a series of experiments, having for their object the converting of petroleum and other oils into a hard, homogeneous mass, suitable for use as fuel on board our war-ships and other large sea-going boats. He claims for his invention that it will entirely change the present system of propelling fighting-ships and steamers, will have a marvellous effect on the commercial industries of this and other countries, and that the material is affected neither by heat nor cold, and is absolutely smokeless and odourless. He has succeeded in turning these inflammable oils into hard solid cakes, which, when set on fire, burn only on the surface, and give off an intense heat. The article can be made in cakes of any size or shape, and can be stored anywhere without the slightest danger, as it cannot evaporate or cause any explosion. It requires very little draught to burn, and makes not more than from 2 to 3 per cent. of ashes. In an interview with Mons. d'Humy, he pointed out some of the advantages the new fuel offers. He remarked that instead of a man-of-war having to carry from 3,000 to 6,000 tons of coal, and call frequently at coaling-stations, 1,000 tons of solidified oil would carry her right round the world, or permit of her remaining at sea for months together. An Atlantic greyhound would be able to go backwards and forwards to New York with 2,000 tons of this fuel, and have plenty to spare at the end of the voyage. A ton of the fuel, Mons. d'Humy says, represents at least 30 tons of coal, and the cost is not more than from £1 to £2 per ton. In the manufacture of steel, he explained, 5 cwt. of solidified petroleum, costing 6s., would melt a ton of steel. At present to make this quantity requires 3 tons of coke, costing from £2. 10s. to £3. The new fuel can also be used with perfect safety for domestic purposes. Asked as to whether there would be any difficulty in obtaining the material by which he converted the oils into a solid lump, he said "No;" that it was most common, and could be obtained all over the world at a comparatively small cost. All that would be needed to carry on the work would be mixing and pressing machines.—Foreign and Colonial Importer.

"Now, George, dear, that we're engaged, what's mine is yours." That is why she allowed him to go home with a generous supply of her face powder on his coat collar.—Yonkers Statesman.

He—Precious, did you give me this beautiful umbrella because you love me? She—No, darling. I gave it to you because I am tired of lending you mine.—Chicago Record.

She—I really don't think I shall take part again in theatricals. I always feel as though I was making a fool of myself. He—Oh, everybody thinks that.—London Pick-Me-Up.



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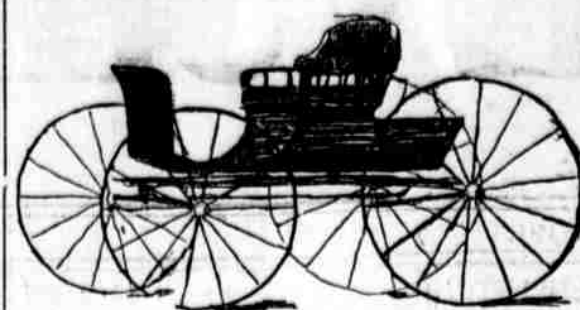
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